Timeline for Major Provisions of Second Engrossed Senate Bill 6097

- Benefits Provisions -



- (1) Removes "liberally construed" language (sec. 1).
- (2) Reduces maximum benefits payable from 30 to 26 weeks, unless the unemployment rate is above 6.8% (sec. 11).
- (3) Increases maximum weekly benefit amount to \$510 for new claims filed between 7/6/2003-1/3/2004 (result of repealing RCW 50.20.125) (sec. 35).
- (4) Repeals law that allowed benefits to an employee separated due to wage garnishment (sec. 35).
- (5) Expands job search log monitoring program to claimants outside the State of Washington (sec. 10).
 - (6) Sets new criteria to allow benefits for voluntarily quitting work (sec. 4).
 - (7) Provides new definitions and penalties for misconduct and gross misconduct in job separations (sec. 5-9).
 - (8) Increases in job search monitoring: All weeks denied rather than one week when claimant doesn't meet job search requirements. Must contract with other states to monitor interstate claimants. Claimants must document either three work search contacts or three job search activities. Failure to comply results in the loss of benefits for all weeks out of compliance (sec. 10).
 - (9) Reduces maximum weekly benefit amount back to \$496: The maximum weekly benefit amount is the greater of \$496 or 63% of the average week wage (sec. 11).
 - (10) Three Quarter Averaging: Changes maximum weekly benefit amount calculation to 1/25th of the average of the highest three quarters in the claimant's base period earnings (sec. 11).
- (11) Four Quarter Averaging: Changes maximum weekly benefit amount calculation to 1% of the claimant's total base period earnings (sec. 11).
- (12) Part-Time Workers: Allows individuals meeting certain hourly criteria and actively seeking part-time work to be eligible for benefits (sec. 12-13).
 - (13) Study of section four voluntary quit criteria due to Governor (veto message).